

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 29-31 have been added by this Amendment to rewrite the objected to claims (23, 27, and 28) in independent form for allowance. More specifically, new claim 29 includes the features of claim 23 written in independent form, and new claim 30 includes the features of claim 27 written in independent form. New claim 31 relates to objected to claim 28, and depends on new claim 30.

Applicants thank the Examiner and his Supervisor for discussing the final rejection of the claims, and various proposed amendments during the March 3, 2005 Interview. In view of the discussion, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 12 to more clearly define that the claimed header is included in at least a data link layer (layer 2). As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims distinguish over the cited art and are in form for allowance.

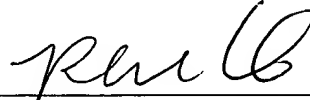
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No. 09/669,565

Atty. Docket Q60968

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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